

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 11, 13, 17-18, 20, 22-23, 25-33, 47-50, and 52-54 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 24, 36, 46, 51, and 57 as follows, without prejudice or disclaimer:

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24. (Once amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 1 to 335 of SEQ ID NO:2.

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36. (Once amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 35 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of an immunoglobulin.

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46. (Once amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a first polynucleotide 90% or more identical to a second polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 1 to 335 of SEQ ID NO:2.

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51. (Once amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 46 wherein said first polynucleotide is 95% or more identical to said second polynucleotide.

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57. (Once amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 56 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of an immunoglobulin.

Please add new claims 106-148 as follows:

B7 106. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide

selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 15 to 84 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 89 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 184 to 228 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 241 to 316 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (e) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 39 to 55 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (f) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 101 to 121 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (g) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 194 to 213 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (h) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 264 to 280 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (i) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 241 to 335 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (j) a polynucleotide complementary to any polynucleotide (a) through (i), above; and

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(k) a polynucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 1 to 335 of SEQ ID NO:2.

107. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (a).

108. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (b).

109. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (c).

110. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (d).

111. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (e).

112. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (f).

113. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (g).

114. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (h).

115. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (i).

116. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (j).

117. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106, wherein said polynucleotide is (k).

118. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106 wherein the polynucleotide further comprises a heterologous polynucleotide.

119. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 107 wherein said heterologous polynucleotide encodes a heterologous polypeptide.

120. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 108 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of an immunoglobulin.

121. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106.

122. (New) The recombinant vector of claim 110 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operably associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence that controls gene expression.

123. (New) A method of producing a recombinant vector comprising inserting the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106 into a vector.

124. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 106.

125. (New) The recombinant host cell of claim 113 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operably associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence that controls gene expression.

126. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 110.

127. (New) A method of producing a host cell comprising transducing, transforming or transfecting a host cell with the vector of claim 110.

128. (New) A method for producing a protein, comprising:

(a) culturing the host cell of claim 113 under conditions suitable to produce a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule; and

(b) recovering the protein from the cell culture.

129. (New) A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 106 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

130. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a first polynucleotide 90% or more identical to a second polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 15 to 84 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 89 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

(c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues 241 to 335 of SEQ ID NO:2.

131. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130, wherein said second polynucleotide is (a).

132. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130, wherein said second polynucleotide is (b).

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133. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130, wherein said second polynucleotide is (c).

134. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130, wherein said first polynucleotide is 95% or more identical to said second polynucleotide (a).

135. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130, wherein said first polynucleotide is 95% or more identical to said second polynucleotide (b).

136. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130, wherein said first polynucleotide is 95% or more identical to said second polynucleotide (c).

137. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130 wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule further comprises a heterologous polynucleotide.

138. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 137 wherein said heterologous polynucleotide encodes a heterologous polypeptide.

139. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 138 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of an immunoglobulin.

140. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130.

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141. (New) The recombinant vector of claim 140 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operably associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence that controls gene expression.

142. (New) A method of producing a recombinant vector comprising inserting the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130 into a vector.

143. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 130.

144. (New) The recombinant host cell of claim 143 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operably associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence that controls gene expression.

145. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 140.

146. (New) A method of producing a host cell comprising transducing, transforming or transfecting a host cell with the vector of claim 140.

147. (New) A method for producing a protein, comprising:

(a) culturing the host cell of claim 143 under conditions suitable to



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produce a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule; and

(b) recovering the protein from the cell culture.

148. (New) A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 130 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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